

Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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THEORY OF THE EARTH

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M O N T A N A S T A T E L I B R A R Y

News

UPDATE

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
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HELENA, MONTANA 59620

April 1990

Update No. 13

The State Library Commission will meet Wednesday, May 2, at the State Library in Helena. Commission members are scheduled to take action on the LSCA Title II grants and the Training Funds applications. The Library Services Advisory Council will take up both issues at its April 22 meeting at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls prior to the start of the MLA annual conference.

State Library Commission members Mary Doggett, C.E. Abramson and Ruth Patrick, State Librarian Richard T. Miller, Jr., and Lewis & Clark Public Library Director Debbie Schlesinger will attend the American Library Association's 16th annual Legislative Day on April 24 in Washington, D.C. They will be lobbying Montana's Congressional delegation on funding for libraries, telecommunications costs and other issues of concern to the library community.

Libraries are being urged to get involved in environmental awareness through Earth Day initiatives. State Librarian Richard Miller asked Montana libraries in a recent letter to display books about the environment, to recycle, to sponsor forums on environmental issues and to emphasize to patrons the availability of this kind of information on April 22, the 20th anniversary of Earth Day.

An opinion piece on Montana's libraries was sent to all of the state's newspapers in honor of National Library Week. The article, by State Librarian Richard Miller, reminds readers of the importance of libraries and encourages stable and adequate financial support for them. Look for it in your local paper during National Library Week, April 22-28.

Help wanted: supporters of the arts and humanities are needed to help promote reauthorization of funding for the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute for Museum Services. The Montana Cultural Advocacy Steering Committee wants to receive 1,000 letters from Montanans (one page, handwritten and addressed to U.S. Rep. Pat Williams) supporting funding reauthorization in its office by April 25. The letters should express support for Williams' efforts to reauthorize, cite benefits the state has received from these three programs, and indicate opposition to censorship. Send letters to the Montana Freedom Writers Campaign, P.O. Box 1872, Bozeman, 59771.

Children's librarians and librarians who work with children are invited to a social hour from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 22, at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls. The gathering, organized by the State Library's Library Development staff, will be held in adjoining rooms reserved by Sheila Cates, Diane Gunderson, Barbara Ridgway and Cathy Siegner. Refreshments will be served.

Montana's Center for the Book proposal will be on the agenda April 23 at the national center's board of directors meeting in Washington, D.C. The National Center for the Book (part of the Library of Congress) is expected to approve the proposal, which would establish a State Center at the State Library with satellite centers at Lewis & Clark Public Library in Helena, Flathead County Library in Kalispell, Great Falls Public Library and Parmly Billings Library. Affiliate Centers for the Book seek to draw attention to a state's literary heritage by focusing attention on authors, publishing and the book arts and by promoting reading and literacy.

PLEASE RETURN

The Governor's Conference on Library and Information Services will be held Jan. 6-8, 1991, in Helena. Themes are library and information services for literacy, democracy and productivity. Sixty delegates chosen from across Montana will draft and adopt a set of resolutions affecting the state's library and information services for the next decade and beyond. Montana's four delegates and four alternates to the July 1991 White House Conference will be chosen from among this group. Directors for the Montana conference are State Librarian Richard Miller, State Law Librarian Judy Meadows, and Margaret Warden, former National Commission on Library and Information Science member.

The Missoula Public Library will get a \$300,000 Dynix automation system by September under a plan approved March 13 by the library's board of directors. Circulation would be automated first, with the public access catalog scheduled to be added later.

The John Gregory Library in Whitehall launched a special Easter reading contest March 12. Participants in "Hunt Up a Good Story" got an egg in an Easter basket for each book read.

Five Montana libraries hosted reading and discussion programs this winter. "Book Group: Exploring Literature in Company" was a six-novel program centering on a theme of "The Common Good." The five libraries are: Flathead County Library (Kalispell); Moore Memorial Library; Livingston Public Library; Havre-Hill County Library, and Great Falls Public Library. The program was organized by the Utah State Library with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Montana Committee for the Humanities.

The following meetings are scheduled for APRIL/MAY:

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| April | 22 | Earth Day |
| | 22 | Library Services Advisory Council, Great Falls |
| | 22-28 | National Library Week |
| | 23 | National Center for the Book board meeting, Washington, D.C. |
| | 23-25 | Montana Library Association annual conference, Heritage Inn, Great Falls |
| | 24 | American Library Association Legislative Day, Washington, D.C. |
| | 25-26 | Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA), Washington, D.C. |
| May | 1 | Federation Coordinators, Helena |
| | 2 | State Library Commission, Helena |
| | 3-5 | Mountain Plains Library Association, Red Lion, Salt Lake City |
| | 19 | Montana State Reading Council, Helena |

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